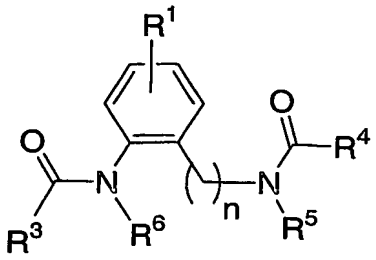
WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound of the formula I:



I

wherein:

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of:

(1) hydrogen,

(2) halogen,

(3) C_{1-6}alkyl, which is unsubstituted or substituted with halogen, hydroxyl or phenyl,

(4) $-OC_{1-6}$alkyl,

(5) $-S(O)_m-C_{1-6}$alkyl, wherein m is selected from 0, 1 and 2,

(6) $-CO_2R^9$, wherein R^9 is independently selected from:

(a) hydrogen,

(b) $-C_{1-6}$alkyl, which is unsubstituted or substituted with 1-6 fluoro,

(c) benzyl, and

(d) phenyl,

(7) $-NR^{10}R^{11}$, wherein R^{10} and R^{11} are independently selected from:

(a) hydrogen,

(b) $-C_{1-6}$alkyl, which is unsubstituted or substituted with 1-6 fluoro,

(c) $-C_{5-6}$cycloalkyl,

(d) benzyl,

(e) phenyl,

(f) $-S(O)_2-C_{1-6}$alkyl,

(g) $-S(O)_2$-benzyl, and

(h) -S(O)2-phenyl,

(8) -S(O)2-NR10R11,

(9) phenyl, which is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from:

(a) -C1-6alkyl,

(b) -O-C1-6alkyl,

(c) halo,

(d) hydroxy,

(e) trifluoromethyl, and

(f) -OCF3;

R3 is selected from the group consisting of:

(1) C1-6alkyl, which is unsubstituted or substituted with halogen, hydroxyl or phenyl,

(2) C3-7cycloalkyl, which is unsubstituted or substituted with halogen, hydroxyl or phenyl, and

(3) phenyl, which is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from:

(a) -C1-6alkyl, which is unsubstituted or substituted with -NR10R11,

(b) -O-C1-6alkyl,

(c) halo,

(d) hydroxy,

(e) trifluoromethyl,

(f) -OCF3;

(g) -CO2R9,

(h) -NR10R11,

(i) -C(O)NR10R11, and

(j) -NO2,

(4) heterocycle, wherein heterocycle is selected from: benzoimidazolyl, benzimidazolonyl, benzofuranyl, benzofurazanyl, benzopyrazolyl, benzotriazolyl, benzothiophenyl, benzoxazolyl, carbazolyl, carbolinyl, cinnolinyl, furanyl, imidazolyl, indolinyl, indolyl, indolazinyl, indazolyl, isobenzofuranyl, isoindolyl,

isoquinolyl, isothiazolyl, isoxazolyl, naphthpyridinyl, oxadiazolyl, oxazolyl, oxazoline, isoxazoline, oxetanyl, pyranyl, pyrazinyl, pyrazolyl, pyridazinyl, pyridopyridinyl, pyridazinyl, pyridyl, pyrimidyl, pyrrolyl, quinazolinyl, quinolyl, quinoxalinyl, tetrahydropyranyl, tetrazolyl, tetrazolopyridyl, thiadiazolyl, thiazolyl, thienyl, triazolyl, azetidinyl, 1,4-dioxanyl, hexahydroazepinyl, piperazinyl, piperidinyl, pyridin-2-onyl, pyrrolidinyl, morpholinyl, thiomorpholinyl, dihydrobenzoimidazolyl, dihydrobenzofuranyl, dihydrobenzothiophenyl, dihydrobenzoxazolyl, dihydrofuranyl, dihydroimidazolyl, dihydroindolyl, dihydroisooxazolyl, dihydroisothiazolyl, dihydrooxadiazolyl, dihydrooxazolyl, dihydropyrazinyl, dihydropyrazolyl, dihydropyridinyl, dihydropyrimidinyl, dihydropyrrolyl, dihydroquinolinyl, dihydrotetrazolyl, dihydrothiadiazolyl, dihydrothiazolyl, dihydrothienyl, dihydrotriazolyl, dihydroazetidinyl, methylenedioxybenzoyl, tetrahydrofuranyl, and tetrahydrothienyl, and N-oxides thereof, which is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from:

(a) -C_{1-6}alkyl,
(b) -O-C_{1-6}alkyl,
(c) halo,
(d) hydroxy,
(e) phenyl,
(f) trifluoromethyl,
(g) -OCF_3;
(h) -CO_2R^9,
(i) -$NR^{10}R^{11}$, and
(j) -$CONR^{10}R^{11}$;

R^4 is selected from the group consisting of:

(1) C_{1-6}alkyl, which is unsubstituted or substituted with halogen, hydroxyl or phenyl,
(2) C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, which is unsubstituted or substituted with halogen, hydroxyl or phenyl, and

(3) phenyl, which is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from:
(a) -C_{1-6}alkyl,
(b) -O-C_{1-6}alkyl,
(c) halo,
(d) hydroxy,
(e) trifluoromethyl,
(f) -OCF_3,
(g) -CO_2R^9,
(h) -$NR^{10}R^{11}$,
(i) -$CONR^{10}R^{11}$, and
(j) -NO_2;

(4) heterocycle, wherein heterocycle is selected from: benzoimidazolyl, benzimidazolonyl, benzofuranyl, benzofurazanyl, benzopyrazolyl, benzotriazolyl, benzothiophenyl, benzoxazolyl, carbazolyl, carbolinyl, cinnolinyl, furanyl, imidazolyl, indolinyl, indolyl, indolazinyl, indazolyl, isobenzofuranyl, isoindolyl, isoquinolyl, isothiazolyl, isoxazolyl, naphthpyridinyl, oxadiazolyl, oxazolyl, oxazoline, isoxazoline, oxetanyl, pyranyl, pyrazinyl, pyrazolyl, pyridazinyl, pyridopyridinyl, pyridazinyl, pyridyl, pyrimidyl, pyrrolyl, quinazolinyl, quinolyl, quinoxalinyl, tetrahydropyranyl, tetrazolyl, tetrazolopyridyl, thiadiazolyl, thiazolyl, thienyl, triazolyl, azetidinyl, 1,4-dioxanyl, hexahydroazepinyl, piperazinyl, piperidinyl, pyridin-2-onyl, pyrrolidinyl, morpholinyl, thiomorpholinyl, dihydrobenzoimidazolyl, dihydrobenzofuranyl, dihydrobenzothiophenyl, dihydrobenzoxazolyl, dihydrofuranyl, dihydroimidazolyl, dihydroindolyl, dihydroisooxazolyl, dihydroisothiazolyl, dihydrooxadiazolyl, dihydrooxazolyl, dihydropyrazinyl, dihydropyrazolyl, dihydropyridinyl, dihydropyrimidinyl, dihydropyrrolyl, dihydroquinolinyl, dihydrotetrazolyl, dihydrothiadiazolyl, dihydrothiazolyl, dihydrothienyl, dihydrotriazolyl, dihydroazetidinyl, methylenedioxybenzoyl, tetrahydrofuranyl, and tetrahydrothienyl, and N-oxides thereof, which is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from:

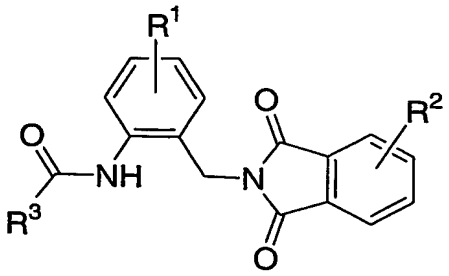
(a) -C_{1-6}alkyl,
(b) -O-C_{1-6}alkyl,
(c) halo,
(d) hydroxy,
(e) phenyl,
(f) trifluoromethyl,
(g) -OCF_3,
(h) -CO_2R^9,
(i) -$NR^{10}R^{11}$, and
(j) -$CONR^{10}R^{11}$;

or wherein R^4 and R^5 are joined together to form a phthalimidyl, succinimidyl or glutamidyl ring, which is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from the definitions of R^1;

R^5 and R^6 are independently selected from the group consisting of:
(1) hydrogen, and
(2) C_{1-6}alkyl;

n is an integer selected from 1, 2 and 3;
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof and individual diastereomers thereof.

2. The compound of Claim 1 of the formula Ia:



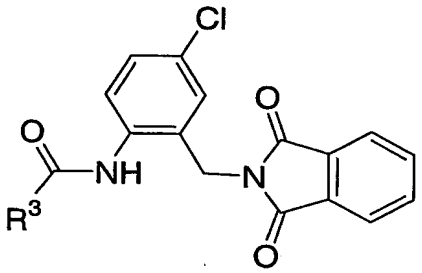
Ia

wherein
R^2 is selected from the group consisting of:
(1) hydrogen,
(2) -C_{1-6}alkyl,

(3) -O-C_{1-6}alkyl,
(4) halo,
(5) hydroxy,
(6) -NO_2, and
(7) phenyl;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof and individual enantiomers and diastereomers thereof.

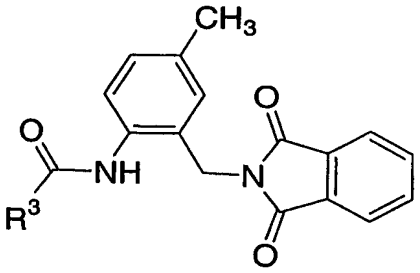
3. The compound of Claim 1 of the formula Ib:



Ib

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof and individual enantiomers and diastereomers thereof.

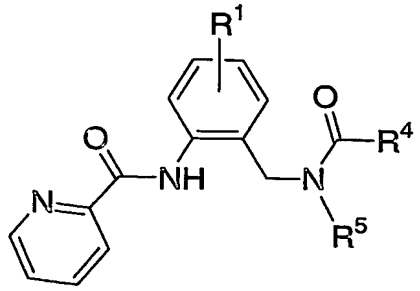
4. The compound of Claim 1 of the formula Ic:



Ic

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof and individual enantiomers and diastereomers thereof.

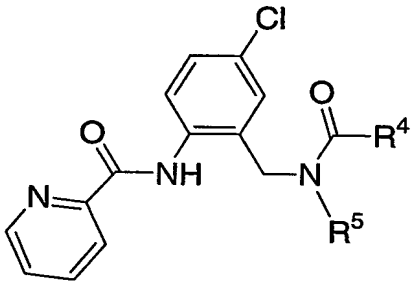
5. The compound of Claim 1 of the formula Id:



Id

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof and individual enantiomers and diastereomers thereof.

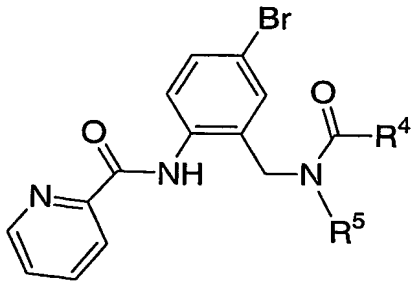
6. The compound of Claim 1 of the formula Ie:



Ie

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof and individual enantiomers and diastereomers thereof.

7. The compound of Claim 1 of the formula If:



If

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof and individual enantiomers and diastereomers thereof.

8. The compound of Claim 1 wherein R^1 is hydrogen.

9. The compound of Claim 1 wherein R^2 is halogen.

10. The compound of Claim 1 wherein R^2 is fluoro.

11. The compound of Claim 1 wherein R^2 is chloro.

12. The compound of Claim 1 wherein R^2 is bromo.

13. The compound of Claim 1 wherein R^2 is methyl.

14. The compound of Claim 1 wherein R^3 is phenyl, which is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from:

(a) -C_{1-6}alkyl,
(b) -O-C_{1-6}alkyl,
(c) halo,
(d) hydroxy,
(e) trifluoromethyl,
(f) -OCF_3;
(g) -CO_2-C_{1-6}alkyl,
(h) -NH_2,
(i) -NH-C_{1-6}alkyl,
(j) -$CONH_2$, and
(k) -CONH-C_{1-6}alkyl.

15. The compound of Claim 1 wherein R^3 is phenyl, which is unsubstituted or substituted with hydroxy, halo, -$CONHC_{1-6}$alkyl or -CO_2C_{1-6}alkyl.

16. The compound of Claim 1 wherein R^3 is pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, pyridazinyl, piperazinyl, furanyl or thienyl.

17. The compound of Claim 1 wherein R^4 and R^5 are joined together to form a phthalimidyl ring.

18. The compound of Claim 1 wherein R^5 is hydrogen or C_{1-6}alkyl.

19. The compound of Claim 1 wherein R^6 is hydrogen.

20. The compound of Claim 1 wherein n is 1.

21. A compound which is selected from the group consisting of:
N-{4-chloro-2-[(1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]phenyl}-2-hydroxybenzamide;
N-{4-chloro-2-[(1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]phenyl}pyridine-2-carboxamide;
N-{4-chloro-2-[(1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]phenyl}pyrimidine-2-carboxamide;
N-{4-chloro-2-[(1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]phenyl}-2-hydroxybenzamide;
2-[({2-[(1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]-3-fluorophenyl}amino)carbonyl]phenyl;
N-{2-[(1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]-3-fluorophenyl}-2-hydroxybenzamide;
2-chloro-N-{2-[(1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]-3-fluorophenyl}benzamide;
N-{2-[(1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]-3-fluorophenyl}-2-fluorobenzamide;
N-{2-[(1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]-3-fluorophenyl}benzamide;
N-{2-[(1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]-3-fluorophenyl}-3,5-difluorobenzamide;
N-{2-[(1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]phenyl}pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-{4-chloro-2-[(1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]phenyl}-3-methoxybenzamide;

N-{4-chloro-2-[(1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]phenyl}-2-methylbenzamide;

N-{4-chloro-2-[(1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]phenyl}-2-furamide;

N-{4-chloro-2-[(1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]phenyl}-5-methylisoxazole-3-carboxamide;

N-{4-chloro-2-[(1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]phenyl}cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-{5-chloro-2-[(1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]phenyl}cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-{4-chloro-2-[(1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]phenyl}-1-methyl-1H-imidazole-2-carboxamide;

N-{4-chloro-2-[(1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]phenyl}-1,3-thiazole-4-carboxamide;

N-{4-chloro-2-[(1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]phenyl}-3-hydroxypyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-{4-chloro-2-[(1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]phenyl}imidazo[2,1-b][1,3]thiazole-6-carboxamide;

N-{4-chloro-2-[(1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]phenyl}-1,2,5-thiadiazole-3-carboxamide;

N-{2-[(1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]-4-methoxyphenyl}pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-{4-bromo-2-[(4-fluoro-1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]phenyl}pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-{4-chloro-2-[(2,5-dioxo-3-phenyl-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrol-1-yl)methyl]phenyl}pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-{4-chloro-2-[(4-fluoro-1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]phenyl}pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-{4-chloro-2-[(5,6-dimethyl-1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]phenyl}pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-{4-chloro-2-[(5-fluoro-1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]phenyl}pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-{4-chloro-2-[(5-ethoxy-1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]phenyl}pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-{5-bromo-3-[(5,6-dichloro-1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]pyridin-2-yl}pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-{4-chloro-2-[(5-hydroxy-1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]phenyl}pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-{4-bromo-2-[(5-fluoro-1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]phenyl}pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-{4-bromo-2-[(5-ethoxy-1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]phenyl}pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-{4-bromo-2-[(5,6-dichloro-1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]phenyl}pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-{4-bromo-2-[(4,6-dichloro-1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]phenyl}pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-{2-[(4,6-dichloro-1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]-4-fluorophenyl}pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-{2-[(5,6-dichloro-1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]-4-fluorophenyl}pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-{4-fluoro-2-[(5-nitro-1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)methyl]phenyl}pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-{4-bromo-2-[(4-methyl-1,3-dioxo-3,4,5,6-tetrahydrocyclopenta[c]-pyrrol-2(1H)-yl)methyl]phenyl}pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-{5-bromo-2-[(pyridin-2-ylcarbonyl)amino]benzyl}pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-(4-bromo-2-{[(2-fluorobenzoyl)amino]methyl}phenyl)pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-{5-bromo-2-[(pyridin-2-ylcarbonyl)amino]benzyl}pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-[4-bromo-2-({[2-(trifluoromethyl)benzoyl]amino}methyl)phenyl]-pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-(4-chloro-2-{[(3,5-dichlorobenzoyl)(ethyl)amino]methyl}phenyl)-pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-(2-{[(4-butoxybenzoyl)(ethyl)amino]methyl}-4-chlorophenyl)-pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-(4-chloro-2-{[(3,5-dimethoxybenzoyl)(ethyl)amino]methyl}phenyl)pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-(4-chloro-2-{[(3,4-dichlorobenzoyl)(ethyl)amino]methyl}phenyl)pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-(4-chloro-2-{[(3,5-dichlorobenzoyl)(isobutyl)amino]methyl}phenyl)pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-(4-chloro-2-{[(3,5-dimethoxybenzoyl)(isobutyl)amino]methyl}phenyl)pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-{5-fluoro-2-[(pyridin-2-ylcarbonyl)amino]benzyl}quinoxaline-2-carboxamide;

N-(2-{[(4-butoxybenzoyl)amino]methyl}-4-fluorophenyl)pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-(4-bromo-2-{[(3-methoxybenzoyl)(methyl)amino]methyl}phenyl)pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-(4-chloro-2-{[(3,5-dichlorobenzoyl)(methyl)amino]methyl}phenyl)pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-(2-{[[3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)benzoyl](methyl)amino]methyl}-4-chlorophenyl)pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-[4-chloro-2-({(3,5-dichlorobenzoyl)[2-(dimethylamino)ethyl]amino}methyl)-phenyl]pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-[2-(benzoylamino)-5-bromobenzyl]-N,3,5-trimethylbenzamide;

N-(4-bromo-2-{[(3,5-dichlorobenzoyl)(methyl)amino]methyl}-phenyl)pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-(4-bromo-2-{[(3,4-difluorobenzoyl)(methyl)amino]methyl}phenyl)-pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-(4-bromo-2-{[(2,4-difluorobenzoyl)(methyl)amino]methyl}phenyl)-pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-(4-bromo-2-{[(3,4-dichlorobenzoyl)(methyl)amino]methyl}phenyl)-pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-[4-chloro-2-({methyl[2-(trifluoromethyl)benzoyl]amino}methyl)-phenyl]pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-(4-chloro-2-{[(3,4-dichlorobenzoyl)(methyl)amino]methyl}-phenyl)pyridine-2-carboxamide;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

22. A pharmaceutical composition which comprises an inert carrier and a compound of Claim 1.

23. A method for potentiation or inhibition of metabotropic glutamate receptor activity in a mammal which comprises the administration of an effective amount of the compound of Claim 1.

24. A method for the manufacture of a medicament for potentiation or inhibition of metabotorpic glutamate receptor activity in a mammal comprising combining the compound of Claim 1 with a pharmaceutical carrier or diluent.

25. A method for treating, controlling, ameliorating or reducing the risk of a neurological and psychiatric disorders associated with glutamate dysfunction in a mammalian patient in need of such which comprises administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.

26. A method for treating, controlling, ameliorating or reducing the risk of schizophrenia in a mammalian patient in need of such which comprises administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.

27. A method for treating, controlling, ameliorating or reducing the risk of anxiety in a mammalian patient in need of such which comprises administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.